

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 EB-07 /072 W

----- 016672

R 172100Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL TORONTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4505

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS TORONTO 2045

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, SOPN, CA

SUBJECT: ONTARIO REACTIONS TO QUEBEC ELECTIONS

REF: TORONTO 2024

1. TORONTO CONTINUES TO REACT TO QUEBEC ELECTIONS WITH CONFUSION REFLECTIVE OF SITUATION. PRESS EMPHASIZING CONFLICTING TRUDEAU/ LEVESQUE STATEMENTS AND KEEPING MOMENTUM OF STORY UP BY NEWS COVERAGE SUCH AS QUEBECKERS ALLEGEDLY STORING VALUABLES IN ONTARIO BANKS.

2. ILLUSTRATIVE OF MEDIA REPORTING WAS TORONTO STAR FINANCIAL COLUMNIST JACK MCARTHUR REPORT ON STOCK MARKET, EXCHANGE RATE EFFECTS APPARENT IN NOVEMBER 16 TRADING. THE LOSSES ARE REALLY DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE AS RESULTS ECONOMIC SITUATION IN CANADA IN GENERAL AND IN QUEBEC IN PARTICULAR BUT ACCENTUATED BY THE UNCERTAINTIES CREATED BY PQ ELECTION VICTORY.

3. ONTARIO PREMIER DAVIS REPORTEDLY TO TOUR ONTARIO TO EMPHASIZE PROVINCE'S FAITH IN A UNITED CANADA.

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4. COMMENT - THE PRESS COLUMNS ARE BEING KEPT FILLED WITH

REPORTS FROM OTTAWA, MONTREAL, QUEBEC CITY AND TORONTO'S
POLITICAL LEADERS AND BAY STREET FINANCIAL CENTER. WHILE
BASIS SIGNIFICANCE OF QUEBEC ELECTION CANNOT BE OVERSTATED
AS POLITICAL ISSUE OR IN EFFECTS ON BUSINESS CLIMATE, MEDIA
COVERAGE ON ELECTION DAY PLUS TWO IS BEGINNING TO STRETCH IN
FINDING NEW WAYS TO COME TO THE SAME GENERAL CONCLUSION THAT ONLY
TIME WILL IDENTIFY THE REALITY IN THE GREAT AMOUNT OF CONJECTURE
BEING SPOUTED ABOUT QUEBEC AND OTTAWA PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.
DIGGINS

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